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Senate calls for new apprentice hunting license

LANSING – The Senate Wednesday approved legislation to create a new hunting license in Michigan that would allow individuals to experience the sport while under the supervision of a fully-licensed, experienced hunter, announced Sen. Michelle McManus, sponsor of the bill.

“Hunting is a traditional staple of Michigan’s culture and economy, but the sport has struggled in recent years as fewer people take part,” said McManus, R-Lake Leelanau. “This new license is one way we can encourage more participation to keep our outdoor heritage alive.”

Under Senate Bill 1105, a person could apply for an apprentice hunting license starting at the legal hunting age, as long as he or she had not previously held a standard hunter’s license. An individual hunting with an apprentice hunting license would not need a hunter’s safety course, but must be accompanied by a licensed adult. An individual could hunt with an apprentice hunting license for two years but after that, would need to apply for a standard license and pass a hunting safety course before going into the woods.

The bill now goes to the House of Representatives for consideration.

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